1351

THE LATIN

DEDICATION

Of the Honourable

Mr. *Alexander Hume-Campbell*,

WITH

A literal Tranſlation thereof by Cardinal *Alberoni*;

And the ſame Tranſlation again verſified by another Hand.

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THE LATIN

TION

Translation direct by Cir-

Translated by another

Sereniſſimo & Celſiſſimo Principi, Frederico Ludovico, *Regnorum* Magnæ Britanniæ & Hiberniæ, *nec non Electoratus* Brunſvicenſis *Principi hereditario, &c. &c. &c.*

Celſiſſime Princeps;

Clementiſſime Domine,

MIRERIS fortaſſe qua temeritate levis ac parva hæc Diſputatio ſedem TUAM ſublimem petat, ſolo Nomine TUO ſplendidiſſimo inſignita. Sed hoc conſilio Theſes illas ſiſto, ut qua ſancta veneratione TE colam publice demonſtrarem. Submiſſe ideo TE, Princeps potentiſſime, obſecro, ut eas tanquam ſingularis ſubjectionis meæ teſſeram accipere haud dedigneris.

NE tamen quis meæ tenuitatis me oblitum, tam amplam de ingenii mei partu ſpem concepiſſe opinetur, ut haſce TIBI, celſiſſime Princeps, digne offerri poſſe credam: novi enim quantum TE jura & privilegia Patriæ noſtræ occupent; nec me latet quam polita & qua ſcientia ſcripta eſſe ea debeant, quæ oculos gravioribus a negotiis avocare audent (hanc vero felicitatem nugis hiſce contingere nec auſim mihi aſſentari:) hæc tamen me non detinere potuerunt, quo minus primitias ſtudiorum celſiſſimo Nomini TUO inſcriberem. Quem enim mitiorem judicem? quem benigniorem Patronum, mihi conciliare potuiſſem, quam

quam Spem Britanniæ, qui omnes comitate amabili & ſuavitate morum allicit, qui in ſe omnia cumulate poſſidet, quæ in terris eximia videri poſſunt; dignus tanti Regis & Parentis ſectator & filius! Virtutes enim Heroum parentum ita in TE concurrunt, ut qui Te laudant hoc in maximis TUIS ornamentis ponant, quod his omnibus, quæ extollit levis aura popelli, contemptis, veram ac conſtantem laudem ex pietate, religione, clementia, aliiſque tanto Heroe dignis virtutibus conſecteris.

IGNOSCAT audaciæ huic meæ magnanimus Princeps, & patiatur ut publicum erga Se devotiſſimi animi teſtimonium extet, votaque pro perpetua SUA ſalute in pectore foveo publice exponam.

QUOD reliquum eſt, Deum Optimum Meximum calentibus ſuſpiriis oro, ut clementiſſimo Principi proſperos etiam ſupra vota ſucceſſus largiatur, Patriæque & Parentibus diu incolumem ſervet. Interim, Principum clementiſſime, indulge huic pietati meæ, & ex ea id quod offero æſtima.

Auguſtiſſimo Nomini Tuo,

Deditiſſimus,

Scrib. Edinburgi,
Die 22. Decem.
A. S. 1728.

devotiſſimus,

ac ſubjectiſſimus,

ALEX. HUME-CAMPBELL.

A Tranſlation of the Honourable Mr. Alexander Hume-Campbell's *Dedication in Latin of his Theſes to Prince* FREDERICK, *&c. &c.*

Moſt Noble Prince, &c.

YOU'LL wonder perhaps, with what Unadviſedneſs, this little and trifling Diſputation † aſcends your lofty Seat, without an Embelliſhment, ſave that of your alone moſt Royal Name; but with this Purpoſe I preſent theſe Theſes, that I may ſhow to the World, with what ſacred Veneration I honour you; therefore, moſt powerful Prince, I humbly beſeech you, to vouchſafe to receive theſe, as a Token of my peculiar Homage.

BUT let no one think me forgetful of my Meanneſs, as to conceive in my Mind, ſo great Hopes of the Achievement of my Wit, that I ſhould believe, moſt excellent Prince, theſe worthy to be offered to you; for I know how much the Rights and Intereſts of our Country are at your Heart: Nor am I ignorant, with how much polite Literature, ſuch ought to be written, that dare withdraw your Eyes from the weightier Buſineſs (nor can I indeed be ſo bold as to flatter my ſelf, that theſe Trifles will meet with that Happineſs) yet ſuch Conſiderations could not reſtrain me, from dedicating the firſt Fruits of my Studies to your moſt illuſtrious Name. For what milder Judge? what

† **Sublimè petere**, Plin. to aſcend up aloft.

what more benign Patron? could I find to my ſelf, than the Hope of *Great Britain*, who charms all Men with a winning Courteſy and Complacency of Manners, who in himſelf poſſeſſes abundantly all Things, which can be deem'd excellent in the World. Worthy Follower and Son of ſo Great a King and Father! for all Virtues of your heroick Parents do ſo center in you, that they who praiſe you, place among your chief Ornaments, that deſpiſing all thoſe Things, which the unconſtant Applauſe of the Populace extol, you only ſeek the genuine and ſteady Praiſe, ariſing from Religion, Honeſty, Clemency, and the other Virtues, worthy of ſo Great a Hero.

LET the magnanimous Prince, forgive this my Boldneſs, and ſuffer there may remain a public Teſtimony of my moſt devoted Heart towards him, and that I may ſet forth to the World the Wiſhes which I cheriſh in my § Breaſt, for his uninterrupted Health.

BEFORE I conclude, I pray the Almighty GOD with the greateſt Warmth of Affection, that he may give liberally to you, moſt meek Prince, Proſperity, even beyond your Wiſhes; and that he may long preſerve you ſafe to the Country and your Parents. In the mean time, moſt Gracious of Princes, pardon this Manner of expreſſing my Duty, and from it alone, meaſure that, which I preſent to your moſt puiſſant Name,

Your moſt Humble,

moſt Devoted,

and moſt Obedient,

ALEX. HUME-CAMPBELL.

Edinb. 21ſt *Decemb.* old Stile, 1728.

§ Or Boſom.

Make Room the Authors, for a greater
Than any of you; a Tranſlator!
Who from the Point does never ramble.
The Dedication of Hume-Campbell
Will ſhow you this. (O Sirs, 'tis quick!)
Directed to Prince Frederick!
How brisk! how lively is it all!
'Tis nota bene *literal!*
The ſofteſt Velvet! ſmootheſt Satin
Connot compare with it in Latin:
Nothing in all the World ſo fine is:
It thus begins,

To His Royal Highneſs

PRINCE *Frederick*, and then for a'
His Titles, thrice & *cetera*.
I do not heed *Celſiſſimo*,
Moſt High in *Engliſh*; for you know,
'Tis ——— to call him ſo.
In Heathen Latin, Authors do,
What Chriſtian *Engliſh* won't allow:
But I'm a Man of better Senſe,
And thus proceeds.

Moſt noble Prince,

Perhaps you'll wonder (but if not
I do:) raſh Unadviſedneſs with what,
This little and trifling Diſputation
(For Rhime ſo fond of Reputation)
Aſcends your Highneſs' lofty Seat,
Without Embelliſhment, ſave that
Of your moſt Royal Name!
(Exceeding fine! Or I'm to blame:)
But with this Purpoſe or Intent,
I do theſe Theſes now preſent,

That

That I to all the World may ſhow,
Or all the World from me may know,
With what moſt ſacred Veneration
I honour you: (not Adoration!)
Therefore moſt powerful Prince! and comely!
I do beſeech your Highneſs humbly,
To condeſcend theſe to receive,
As the beſt Preſent I can give;
As a ſure Token, Mark, or Badge
Of my peculiar due Homage.

BUT let none think, or I'll be petfull,
That of my Meanneſs I'm forgetful,
As to conceive within my Mind,
(Where only I Conception find)
Hopes ſo lofty, great and fit,
Of this Achievement of my Wit,
As, Prince moſt excellent and true,
Believe theſe Offerings! worthy you:
For well I know, I am ſo ſmart,
How much our Country's at your Heart:
Her Rights and Intereſts ſettled there,
As clear as in a Glaſs appear.
Nor am I ignorant, how much
Of Literature polite, ſerves ſuch
To write with, as your Eyes durſt draw
From weightier Buſineſs to Law.
Nor can I indeed be ſo bold,
(Though I the Glaſs of Flatt'ry hold
Before my Face, whilſt I indite
Theſe trifling Sallies of my Wit:)
To think, I ſay, theſe ſhall poſſeſs
The tenth Part of ſuch Happineſs;
Yet ſuch Conſiderations fail'd,
And nought that wou'd reſtrain prevail'd,

When I reſolv'd to dedicate,
My early Studies tender Brat!
To your ſuperb Illuſtrious Name,
The beſt way I could climb to Fame,
If I thought all the World ſhould trudge,
Where could I find a milder Judge?
A Patron more benign! no where,
In all my Travels would appear,
Than you, Great *Britain*'s darling Hope!
Who yield of Charms ſo large a Cropt;
That every Man may get a Share,
To wonder at, when you are near:
O ſuch a winning Courteſy!
Of Manners ſuch Complacency,
Who in himſelf poſſeſſes all
Things; out of himſelf nought at all,
That in the deeming World's Eſteem,
Doth excellent or worthy ſeem.
Moſt worthy Son! or Follower rather
Of a moſt mighty King and Father!
For all the Virtues, all the Graces,
Of your heroic Parents Races,
Meet in a Point, and in you center,
That thoſe who on your Praiſes venture,
Among your chief Decorements place,
How, what th' unconſtant Populace
Applaud, and very much extol;
Are Things deſpis'd by your great Soul!
The genuine Praiſe you only ſeek
(Which from Religion riſes meek)
From never baſhful Honeſty!
From tender hearted Clemency!
And all the other Virtues fair!
Which ſuch a Hero! ſtill ſhould wear.

My forward Boldneſs O forgive,
Magnanimous Prince! and let this live,
To be a publick Teſtimony,
How much you are my darling Honey;
How much my Heart to you's devoted;
How deeply you therein are rooted:
So to the World will ſtand confeſt,
The Wiſhes cheriſh'd in my Breaſt,
For your for ever growing Wealth,
And long uninterrupted Health.

But now becauſe the Work is good,
I firſt will Pray, and then Conclude:
Pray with moſt boiling hot Affection,
Almighty God give you Protection:
And give to you full liberally,
Moſt meek Prince! much Proſperity:
As much as will your Wiſhes fire,
As much, nay more than you deſire:
And that he may preſerve you long,
Safe, Blooming, Luſty, Firm and Strong,
To be your Parents greateſt Pleaſure,
And ſtill the Country's Richeſt Treaſure!

In the mean Time, moſt Gracious Prince,
At what I've ſaid take no Offence:
Pardon this rough Way of Expreſſing,
My bounden Duty (for my Bleſſing)
And thence alone the Meaſure take,
Of the rude Preſent which I make;
Inſcrib'd to your puiſſant Name!
And deſtin'd to ſecure your Fame.

But a Tranſlator who has Wit,
Ne'er of his Author leaves a Bit,

Unen-

Unengliſhed ; nor yet will I :
Have at the Date then, 'tis hard by,
Edinburgh the Twenty firſt
Day of *December*, forth I burſt :
But the Difficulty lyes here,
To give good *Engliſh* for the Year ;
For that's preceeded by *A. S.*
Whoſe latent Meaning thus I gueſs :
Firſt *A* I think may ſtand for *Anne*,
And *S* for *Stewart* ; but then,
What has a Queen deceaſed to do,
With a Book's Date that's written now ?
This will not do : I'll try another
Device, to extricate this Pother.
Next *A* may mean Academy,
S will with Science that ſupply :
But how do theſe relate to Year ?
A. S. muſt ſomething elſe mean here.
Perhaps *A. S.* denotes the Name
Of him who ſhould tranſlate the ſame :
But how the Author cou'd foreſee,
That I ſhould his Tranſlator be,
I can't find out. Oh ! now I gueſs,
Auld Style's the Meaning of *A. S.*
I find my Diſquiſition here,
Firſt naming to the Prince what Year,
Theſe Lucubrations did appear :
To wit, One thouſand, hundreds ſeven,
And twenty eight, a Number even.

THUS ends the nobleſt Dedication !
That e'er did Honour to our Nation,
Immortal made by *my Tranſlation*.
For when the grinding Teeth of Time,
Shall make a † Breakfaſt of my Rhime,

So

† *Dinner or Supper.*

So to be eaten, it, right loth,
Will riſe more glorious churn'd to Froth:
Or ſhould a ſecond Deluge rore,
And all be Sea without a Shore;
Such is the Lightneſs of the Work!
'Twill on the Surface dance like Cork:
Or when the World with Fire ſhall burn,
And all beſides to Aſhes turn;
My Lines elude the fatal Stroke,
And curle aloft in Clouds of Smoke.
Froth, Cork and Smoke, Things light and dull,
Deſcribe my Verſes to the Full:
And what can Criticks find in theſe,
With their envenom'd Stings to ſeize?
Thus ſelf-ſecure, the Work remains,
Where everlaſting Dulneſs reigns.

FINIS.

20 JY 64